

## **Animation**

Working Title: Cooped up.

Logline:

This is a story about a broiler chicken who wants to merge with the egg-laying country chickens while hiding from the humans who want to slaughter him.

Premise: Nothing is certain but death and taxes.

Act Structure:

### **ACT 1**

It's drizzling outside and the sun will rise soon. There is a small coop in the middle of a small farm with more chickens than there is space for.

Water drips from the ceiling crack and falls from the shabby-built coop onto our chickens face, who is sleeping on the top bunk.

With an annoyed look on his face he gets up, evident that this is an everyday event. The chicken walks towards the group feeding area and squeezes between the crowd to have his morning meal.

Hook:

A human in a white shirt and overalls with a funky hat and yellow gloves enters the coop. Everything is dead silent. The yellow gloves pick a few chicken and leaves. All the chickens start rejoicing as a few of them are picked to see the outside world. All except one.

Inciting incident:

After the next visit by the human, something strange happens. The coop is left open! None of the chickens seem to be curious as to where the selected chickens are taken but our hero gets curious.

### **ACT 1**

The chicken hesitates at first. He looks out and immediately puts his head back in. Then after a few more times going back and forth, he

takes his first step onto the wet wooden structure outside. With wondrous eyes, it walks onto the farm. The chicken struts happily and forgets why he came out of his home. He hears a chicken cry in the distance.

#### *Plot point 1:*

- He follows the cries of the chicken, it grows closer and closer and finally the sound stops inside a shed—with a single bulb lit inside. The chicken gets nearer and sees a horrific view of the other chicken being slaughtered. Their feathers being pulled out and bodies being cut into pieces.

## **ACT 2**

#### *Act 2A:*

He runs frantically back to the coop. He gets inside breathing heavily. None of the other chickens seem to notice or care. The broiler chicken looks around for places to hide from the human, but doesn't find anything that would suffice—underneath the bed, behind the feeder, above the wooden planks on the roof.

He finally lays down tired and looks at the cracked leaky roof. His eyes move towards a small hole on the corner of one of the walls. This sparks an idea for escape from the coop.

#### *Pinch point:*

He tries running up the wall, but fails. Next he tries swinging to the hole, which also he fails. Finally he decides to attempt to fly to the hole which works after quite some effort.

He escapes and runs across a maze field. After crossing the maze he reaches another farm with a well built bigger coop.

The chickens living there have an abundance of feed and water. They live a better and safer life. The broiler chicken envies their life. The country chickens with pity accept the outsider as they know his visit will not be for long.

#### *Midpoint:*

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visit will not be for long.

While taking a sip of water the broiler chicken notices himself and the others around him. He was white whereas everyone around him was brown or black.

#### **Act 2B:**

The broiler chicken notices the pig enclosure next to the coop. The pigs came in clean and pink but left brown after a few dives in the mud. The chicken decides to do the same and goes mud diving to blend in with the country chicken.

The broiler is offered a bed next to the window by the country chicken. Everytime the human comes to collect eggs from the coop the broiler panics a bit as it can't lay eggs.

#### **Plot point 2:**

It starts raining heavily the next day. Wind blows very high and even the sturdy well built coop feels a shake. After the next strong blow of wind, the windows latch breaks and it starts raining inside. The broiler chicken who had his bed next to the window gets all wet. Soon after a loud thud is heard and a small piece of the wooden ceiling is fallen on the floor.

### **ACT 3**

#### **Climax:**

The coop door swings open and a human stares first at the floor then at the open window. He spots the intruder and catches the broiler chicken.

#### **End sequence:**

<no visuals> the chicken cries similar to how all the broiler chickens taken by the humans cry before their death. A large cry, knife chops and its silence.

### **Character Types:**

Hero: The broiler chicken

The broiler chicken is a character that's not one of the sheep. He doesn't accept and approve of the things that's happening around him. Even

Though his character has fear in him to do something different, he is brave enough to try and explore.

Nemesis: The Humans

The superior beings who have control over the life of the chickens.

### **Character Bio (Tri-dimensional):**

The Broiler Chicken

#### PHYSIOLOGY

- 1. Gender:** male
- 2. Age:** 20-25 days
- 3. Height and weight:** around 1 kg, a feet
- 4. Color of hair, eyes, skin:** white feathers, red comb and wattle
- 5. Posture:** like a chicken
- 6. Appearance:** white feather covered in mud
- 7. Defects:** -
- 8. Heredity:** -

#### SOCIOLOGY

- 1. Class:** lower class
- 2. Place in community:** metaphorically shows the lower economic class
- 3. Amusements, hobbies:** monotonous lifestyle

#### PSYCHOLOGY

- 1. Sex life:** non existent
- 2. Personal premise:** Wants to live a better lifestyle than what he lives now.
- 3. Frustrations:** everyday life and seeing the ones around him accepting whatever they get.
- 4. Temperament:** over analysis things and is brave enough to face the unknown
- 5. Attitude toward life:** has a strong will to live
- 6. Complexes:** he envies the life of the chicken that lives a better life than him.

**7. Abilities:** can fit through small places and can fly a bit

**8. Qualities:** is a fast learner and observes everything keenly

### **Character Bio (Free Form):**

The broiler chicken is a very over-analysing suspiciousness of everything character. He doesn't approve of their way of life and doesn't agree with the rest of the chickens who think that getting picked by humans to go outside is a good thing. He is brave enough to overcome his fears and try out new things. He doesn't follow the majority and thinks differently from the crowd. The broiler also proves his difference by having a keen sense of observation and being a quick learner.

The broiler chicken's character is related to someone in a lower economic class. Who wants to escape from the life they have and wants something better. The country chicken's character is a translation of the upper economic class. The humans are the factors that don't allow the mixing of the two classes.

### **Back Story:**

The broiler chicken as a kid was brought up by one of the chickens who used to tell a lot of stories to him about the outside world and what it would be like. Lot of stories involved a world of paradise like the rest of the believed. But some of the stories had a more real outlook.

The stories about humans being cruel and selfish creatures had a much greater impact on him than the other ones.

When it was the time for the chicken who looked after our hero to go, he was very hesitant. This mistrust is taken up by the little broiler chicken.